Students from Lenoir, Jones, and Greene Counties who excel in high school could get their first two years of college tuition free at Lenoir Community College with the new LCC Guarantee Scholarship program.

The LCC Guarantee Scholarship provides an incentive to high-achieving students to choose Lenoir Community College as their launching point for college transfer or career opportunities.

To qualify for the Guarantee, students must graduate from a service area high school—public, private, or homeschool—with NC resident eligibility, complete nine Career and College Promise (CCP) credits with a C or better, graduate high school with a 3.0+ unweighted Grade Point Average (GPA), and enroll as a full-time student the following fall semester at LCC.

"The LCC Guarantee provides an affordable avenue to college and reduces the need for student borrowing," said LCC President Dr. Rusty Hunt. "These students are already invested in Lenoir Community College by completing nine CCP credits in high school. This is an opportunity for them to continue their college career at essentially no tuition cost to them or their parents."

To apply for the scholarship, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) located at <u>www.fafsa.ed.gov</u> and the LCC Scholarship application at <u>www.lenoircc.edu/scholarship</u> by the last Friday in March each year.

The scholarship covers all tuition and required general student fees. Book costs and program-specific fees are not covered.

To maintain the LCC Guarantee, students will complete at least 12 credit hours per semester and maintain a college gpa of 3.0 or better.

"The scholarship covers a maximum of 60 credit hours," said Dean of Industrial Programs Maggie Brown. "The majority of our programs are between 60 and 70 hours to complete. With the nine hours these students already have, they should successfully complete a degree, diploma, or certificate under the LCC Guarantee Program."

"The benefits of this program are numerous. We want to encourage students to work hard and achieve in high school and to know that hard work is rewarded," Hunt said. "The LCC Guarantee will not only enhance student engagement, but will help produce degreed students who will be employment ready and benefit our local economy."

Students are encouraged to apply early. LCC reserves the right to limit the number of scholarships. For more information, contact LCC Foundation Director Jeanne Kennedy at (252) 233-6812.